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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Nobumasa SUZUKI et al.

Group Art Unit : 3732

Appl. No. : 10/659,302

Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

Filed : September 11, 2003

Confirmation No. : 3567

For : ROD FIXING APPARATUS FOR VERTEBRA CONNECTING  
MEMBER

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statements filed on December 5, 2005, and December 12, 2003 Applicant hereby submits a copy of a Korean Office Action dated September 29, 2005, with respect to patent family member Korean Patent Application No. 10-2003-0062793 and a Japanese translation thereof, in which the following document was cited:

International Patent Publication No. WO 95/13756.

The relevance to the document, as ascertained by the Korean Examiner applying Korean rules to the claims, is set forth in the Korean Office Action.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. A copy of the above-noted foreign document is

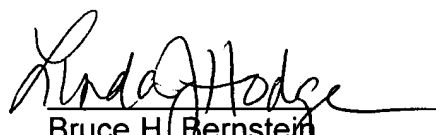
attached hereto and the document is listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form.

The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

Further, Applicants note that since this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted subsequent to the issuance of an Office Action on the merits, Applicants certify that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement, and thus no fee is required to ensure consideration of the submitted material.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Nobumasa SUZUKI et al.

  
Bruce H. Bernstein  
Reg. No. 29,027

Linda J. Hodge  
Reg. #47,348

December 27, 2005  
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.  
1950 Roland Clarke Place]  
Reston, VA 20191  
(703) 716-11912

